**Gauge Conversion of Baripada-Bangiripose Rail Line**

1919. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a long outstanding demand of the people of tribal-dominated backward district of Mayurbanj for conversion of the 45 Kilometre stretch of narrow gauge line from Baripada to Bangiripose into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, what is holding up its execution and the time frame within which this project would be completed and opened to traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Baripada-Bangriposi conversion is a part of Rupsa-Bangriposi gauge conversion project. On this project, gauge conversion of Rupsa-Baripada has already been completed as first phase. The work on Baripada-Bangriposi has now been taken up and expected to be completed in about 2 years period depending upon availability of resources.

**Linkage between mineral rice town and commercial Hubs**

1920. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of Barbil Municipality and other in Orissa have demanded rail linkage between this mineral-rich town and commercial hubs in the State and also for extension of Tata Nagar-Danapur and other trains up to Barbil, to help the people of Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the status of the proposal; and

(c) the time-frame within which this proposal would be considered and the action taken to help the people of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No such demand have been received for construction of new lines from Barabil to different places in Orissa. However, extension of 8183/ 8184 Tata-Danapur Expess & other trains up to Barabil is not found feasible due to operational constraints including lack of spare terminal/maintenance facilities at Barabil.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Abandoned rail projects**

1921. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases are there, as on 31st March, 2006, where the proposals for work were abandoned after incurring expenditure zone and year-wise; and

(b) total quantum of money that remain unproductive due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No railway project has been abandoned midway in the recent past. However, Kottayam-Erumeli and Diphu-Karong new lines had been dropped but no work had been done on these projects.

**Sign boards of railway stations**

1922. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in all the sign boards of railway stations name in Urdu language has also been added;

(b) whether his Ministry is aware that Punjabi is the second language in the State of Haryana;

(c) whether he is aware that people from Punjab also use these trains because Haryana and Punjab are inter-connected; and

(d) whether he would issue orders for also writing the sign boards etc. in Punjabi language in Haryana?